

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 SY-05 AID-05 DHA-02 ACDA-05

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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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AMCONSUL ADANA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, ASEC, TU

SUBJECT: STUDENT DISTURBANCES

REF ANKARA 0205

1. SPORADIC STUDENT VIOLENCE, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND CLASSROOM BOYCOTTS HAVE CONTINUED IN ANKARA SINCE THE CLASHES OF JANUARY 8-9. ON JANUARY 12 RIGHTIST STUDENTS DEMONSTRATED IN ANKARA OVER THE DEATH OF A RIGHTIST WHO HAD BEEN WOUNDED IN A STUDENT CLASH JANUARY 2. THE DEMONSTRATORS REPORTEDLY CALLED FOR THE RESIGNATION OF MININTERIOR ASILTURK (NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY, NSP). A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE DEMONSTRATION SHOWED BANNERS READING, "THE TURKISH NATION WILL NEVER PARDON THOSE WHO PARDONED THE
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COMMUNISTS" AND "NEITHER AMERICA, NOR RUSSIA, NOR CHINA,

EVERYTHING FOR TURKEY."

2. JANUARY 12-13 ASSORTED INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED FROM ANKARA UNIVERSITY'S MEDICAL AND VETERINARY FACULTIES, THE ANKARA ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL ACADEMY, THE GAZI EDUCATION INSTITUTE, AND THE ADVANCED MEN'S TECHNICAL TEACHERS SCHOOL. ON JANUARY 12. THE RECTOR OF HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY AND THE DEPUTY RECTOR OF ANKARA UNIVERSITY MET WITH PRESIDENT KORUTURK TO DISCUSS UNIVERSITY SECURITY. JANUARY 13. THE SENATE OF ANKARA UNIVERSITY SUSPENDED CLASSES UNTIL JANUARY 23. THE PROSPECTS OF FURTHER VIOLENCE REMAIN HIGH AS YET ANOTHER STUDENT WOUNDED IN AN EARLIER CLASH, A "PROGRESSIVE" HACETTEPE STUDENT IN THIS CASE, DIED ON JANUARY 13. NEVERTHELESS MANY STUDENTS CONTINUE TO ATTEND CLASSES (IN THOSE SCHOOLS REMAINING OPEN) DESPITE THE DISORDERS AND EXAMINATIONS ARE CONTINUING AT MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY (METU).

3. THE VIOLENT EVENTS OF JANUARY 8-9 PROMPTED AN EXTREMELY BITTER EXCHANGE BETWEEN PRIMIN DEMIREL AND REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) SPOKESMAN. IN RESPONSE TO DEMIREL'S STATEMENT THAT A GOVERNMENT TAKE-OVER OF THE UNIVERSITIES OR EVEN IMPOSITION OF MARTIAL LAW MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO SUPPRESS DISORDERS, RPP CHAIRMAN ECEVIT RESTATED HIS OPPOSITION TO MARTIAL LAW, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS AN INTRIQUE "TO DRAW THE MILITARY INTO THE POLITICAL ARENA." ON JANUARY 12 DEMIREL COUNTERED WITH A STATEMENT CALLING ECEVIT "LEADER OF THE STREET AND OF ANARCHY." DEMIREL ASSERTED THAT, "THERE WILL BE PEACE AND QUIET IF THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, THE SCHOOLS, AND THE TEACHERS ARE TAKEN FROM THE HANDS OF THE RPP CHAIRMAN AND THE RPP." DEMIREL ENDED BY CHALLENGING ECEVIT WITH THE STATEMENT, "THE RPP CHAIRMAN SAYS HE WILL TOPPLE THE GOVERNMENT. I SAY THIS, 'YOU AREN'T STRONG ENOUGH FOR THE JOB (OF TOPPLING THE GOVERNMENT), LET'S SEE YOU TOPPLE IT.'"

4. FOLLOWING THE ABOVE STATEMENT BY DEMIREL, THE RPP'S NATIONAL ASSEMBLY GROUP DEPUTY CHAIRMEN UYSAL AND OLCEN SAID THAT, "SO MANY YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE BEEN MURDERED DURING DEMIREL'S PRESENT PREMIERSHIP THAT WE THINK THE HONORABLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEMIREL WILL BECOME A MANAGER OF CEMETERIES AFTER THE GOVERNMENT IS TOPPLED." RPP SECRETARY GENERAL EYUBOGLU IN A SEPARATE STATEMENT JANUARY 13. ACCUSED DEMIREL OF "WANTING TO PUSH THE RPP, TURKEY'S MOST POWERFUL PARTY, INTO THE STREET." EYUBOGLU SAID THAT THE TURKISH GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WOULD FINALLY "ASK AN ACCOUNTING OF THE DISASTERS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAD BROUGHT TO TURKEY.?"

5. IN STATEMENTS JANUARY 12 AND 13 SPOKESMEN OF THE
REPUBLICAN RELIANCE PARTY (RR) CALLED UPON ALL POLITICIANS
AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO OPPOSE ACTS OF VIOLENCE, BLAMED
THE MAY 1974 AMNESTY FOR RELEASING THOSE DISPOSED TO
VIOLENCE,AND INVOKD THE RR'S SUPPORT FOR STRENGTHENED
INTERNAL SECURITY LEGISLATION.
MACOMBER

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